



Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)
Atlanta, GA 30333

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Dear Healthcare Provider:

As a clinician, would you be able to recognize a case of smallpox? If asked, are you able to help others make decisions about voluntary smallpox vaccination? Would you be able to recognize and manage a patient with an adverse reaction to smallpox vaccination? Are you prepared?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is providing this information to physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and registered nurses to raise your awareness about these issues, and to provide you with resources for learning more about this infectious disease.

Provided in this packet is up-to-date information about smallpox and the smallpox vaccine. We urge you to review the following enclosed materials.

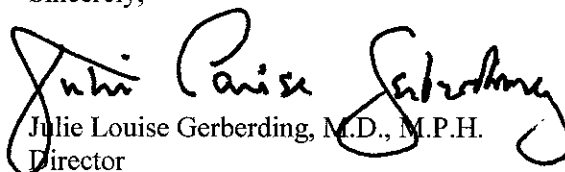
1. Evaluating Patients for Smallpox – a poster to assist in assessment of patients with acute, generalized vesicular or pustular rash illnesses
2. Smallpox Vaccination Methods and Reactions – a pocket guide with pictures and information about smallpox vaccination, responses to vaccination, and adverse reactions
3. Vaccine Information Statement (VIS) – 3-page cover sheet of the VIS used in the vaccination clinics containing basic smallpox and smallpox vaccination information, including who should get vaccinated, associated risks, and information regarding adverse reactions.

Additional information can be obtained by accessing CDC's website at www.cdc.gov/smallpox.

REGISTER NOW. CDC is also developing a clinician's registry to provide you real-time information to help you prepare for (and possibly respond to) terrorism events. As a participant, you will receive regular updates on terrorism preparedness and response issues targeted to clinicians. To participate, please go to www.cdc.gov/smallpox, click on the "Clinicians" information page, and follow the instructions for entering your e-mail address. You will not be asked to enter your name or other personal information.

The public's health and safety are our highest priorities. Ensuring that clinicians have the right information about smallpox and other potential terrorism agents is critical as we work toward improving this nation's preparedness for a terrorism attack. We thank you for taking the time to familiarize yourself with this information.

Sincerely,


Julie Louise Gerberding, M.D., M.P.H.
Director

Enclosure